

**DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION**14215 RIVER ROAD, P.O. BOX 530  
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DELTA CONSERVANCY  
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EDMUND G. BROWN Jr., Governor



2011 AUG 22 PM 4:06

August 8, 2011

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Supervisors**San Joaquin County Board of  
Supervisors**Solano County Board of  
Supervisors**Yolo County Board of  
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Solano Counties**Cities of Sacramento and  
Yolo Counties**Central Delta Reclamation Districts**North Delta Reclamation Districts**South Delta Reclamation Districts**Business, Transportation and  
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Agriculture**Natural Resources Agency**State Lands Commission*

Campbell Ingram  
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy  
3500 Industrial Blvd  
West Sacramento, California 95691

Dear Mr. Ingram,

On behalf of the Delta Protection Commission (Commission), I am writing to request support, and to discuss the development of a partnership between the Commission and the Conservancy on the planning process for the Great California Delta Trail. The State Legislature deemed the Great California Delta Trail of statewide recreational importance when it passed SB 1556 (Torlakson) and the Governor agreed by signing it into law January 1, 2007. Through this legislation, the Commission is mandated to complete a feasibility study and implementation plan for the establishment of a trail network in the five Delta Counties.

Blueprint Reports were identified as key first steps in the Delta Trail planning process. With grant funding awarded by the California Coastal Conservancy and Contra Costa County, the Commission completed the Delta Trail Blueprint Report for Contra Costa and Solano Counties. The next step is to create a Blueprint Report for the remaining three Delta Counties: Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo. The Commission is planning to develop this Blueprint Report in-house with limited staffing, and the process would benefit from partnerships and in-kind assistance. The Commission is applying for an in-kind grant from National Park Service to support the Blueprint Report through their Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. Valuable assistance had previously been provided through this program to develop the report for Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

This application requires the identification of project partners. The Commission is asking the Conservancy to work as partners through offering staff assistance, when possible, on tasks such as: public outreach, conducting Stakeholder and Technical Advisory Committee Meetings, and GIS data collection and mapping.

The Commission looks forward to future discussion with the Conservancy on this. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Machado  
Executive Director



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

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Mark Wilson  
*Delta Protection Commission*

August 23, 2011

Michael Machado  
Executive Director  
Delta Protection Commission  
14215 River Road, PO Box 530  
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

I'm writing this letter in response to your letter, dated August 8, 2011, regarding the development of a partnership between the Delta Protection Commission (Commission) and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) to undertake the planning process of the Great California Delta Trail. Providing increased opportunities for recreation and tourism in the Delta is, as you are aware, one of the Conservancy's legislative mandates. This project seeks to establish a network of trails in the Delta counties and will expand tourism and recreation opportunities for those that live, work, and play in the Delta.

As the Commission moves forward with the planning process to complete the Blueprint Reports for Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo Counties the Conservancy can offer in-kind support services including but not limited to:

- Grant identification and grant writing assistance,
- Public outreach and development of outreach materials,
- Stakeholder and Technical Advisory Committee meetings, and
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data collection and mapping.

I ask that you direct all requests for in-kind services to me so that I can best allocate the Conservancies' staff resources. In the interim I have directed my staff to review SB 1556 (Torlakson) as well as the Delta Trail Blueprint Report for Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

The Conservancy looks forward to partnering on the Great California Delta Trail project. Please contact me at your convenience to schedule a meeting to discuss this in further detail.

Sincerely,

Campbell Ingram  
Executive Officer



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*Central Valley Flood Protection Board*

**Mark Wilson**  
*Delta Protection Commission*

August 25, 2011

Ms. Barbara Rice  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program  
National Park Service  
333 Bush St., Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Rice,

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) is writing in support of the Delta Protection Commission's (DPC) application to the National Park Service (NPS) Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program for the Great California Delta Trail Blueprint Report for Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties. The Conservancy is able to be a partner on this project by connecting the DPC with regional representatives who can serve on the Stakeholder and Technical Advisory Committees, and help to acquire necessary information on the region to inform the process, such as public outreach and development of outreach materials, as well as the collection of GIS data.

In 2007, the State Legislature passed Senate Bill 1556 (Torlakson), requiring the DPC to develop and implement a plan for a continuous regional recreational corridor that would extend around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta shorelines within the five Delta counties, and will link the San Francisco Bay Trail system to the planned Sacramento River trails in Yolo and Sacramento Counties. A Blueprint Report was identified as the first step in this process. The California Coastal Conservancy and Contra Costa County granted funding to the DPC for development of a Blueprint Report in Contra Costa and Solano Counties. Now the DPC is undertaking the Blueprint Report for Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties, and is doing it in-house with limited staffing. Therefore in-kind assistance and partnerships are of tremendous value.

This project closely aligns with the purposes of the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. Again, the Conservancy fully supports the application for the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program and looks forward to working with the DPC and the NPS to continue progress on the Great California Delta Trail.

Sincerely,

Campbell Ingram  
Executive Officer

cc: Michael Machado, Delta Protection Commission  
Alex Westhoff, Delta Protection Commission



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Michael Villines  
*Central Valley Flood Protection Board*

Mark Wilson  
*Delta Protection Commission*

September 2, 2011

Via E-Mail

Honorable Don Nottoli, Chair  
Delta Protection Commission  
c/o Sacramento County  
700 H Street, Room 2450  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mike Machado, Executive Director  
Delta Protection Commission  
14215 River Road  
PO Box 530  
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

**Re: Comments on the Public Draft of the Economic Sustainability Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**

Dear Chair Nottoli and Mr. Machado:

We appreciate the opportunity to review and provide comment on the first public draft of the Economic Sustainability Plan ("ESP").

Conservancy staff recently met with several members of the ESP consultant team. From our perspective the meeting was very productive and as a result many of our initial comments were sufficiently addressed. The comments provided below are general in nature and should be construed to apply to the entire ESP unless otherwise indicated.

1. The Conservancy was born out of the same legislation, SBX7-1, that mandated the preparation of the ESP. However, there is no mention of the Conservancy's role, as mandated in our enabling legislation, in economic development and the promotion of recreation and tourism in the Delta. Specifically, the legislation states that the Conservancy shall "provide increased opportunities for recreation and tourism" (§32300(h)(3))
2. There are many instances in the ESP where "wildlife viewing activities and other ecologically based activities" are identified as recreation activities that are unlikely to generate significant increase in economic activity, relative to agricultural inputs. Other sections recognize increased ecosystem based tourism as one of the most important elements of increased economic activity in the Delta. Our concern is that the context of these statements is not sufficient to avoid confusion and may lead to a perception that the ESP is down-playing the very real contribution that these activities can make to the Delta economy.
3. There are several references to the need for an existing agency to be designated to manage and implement economic sustainability efforts in the Delta. The ESP recommends that the Delta Protection Commission consider filling this role. The Conservancy is in the process of completing its Strategic Plan. Through the Strategic Plan process the Conservancy, guided by input from local interests, will

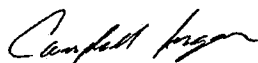
September 2, 2011

define its role in promoting recreation and tourism in the Delta and provide a blueprint for such activity across the Delta. The statement (pg xiv) "The Delta Protection Commission should consider taking on this role" could be amended to read "The Delta Protection Commission should consider taking on this role in coordination with the Delta Conservancy".

4. Similarly to item 3 above, references to the Delta Improvement Fund throughout the ESP could be amended to include the Delta Conservancy Fund. The Delta Conservancy Fund was established by SBX7-1 and its funds shall be used to support the Conservancy's mandates including the promotion of recreation and tourism and efforts that "support the economic well-being of Delta residents".
5. The ESP clearly states that one of the constraints to increasing recreation and tourism in the Delta is the potential increase of instances of trespassing, vandalism, littering, etc. It has been the Conservancy's experience, in our interactions with Delta residents and local government, that underfunded and understaffed enforcement is a key driver in perceptions about increased recreation and tourism opportunities. The "Overview and Key Finding" section of Chapter 7 (pg 108) should be amended to include the critical issue of enforcement mechanisms and responsibilities in the Delta.
6. The description of the "five location-based strategies" (pg 108-109) should be amended to include the expansion of public access to both existing and planned natural habitat areas.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review the ESP and provide comments. We will continue to be actively engaged in this process and look forward to the release of the next draft document.

Sincerely,



Campbell Ingram  
Executive Officer

CC: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board

